



Dear Tribal Leaders,

We hope this letter finds you and the people you represent safe and well. As the operators of racetrack casinos in New Mexico, it is our sincere interest to work with you all in determining the best path forward for our respective gaming industries.

We have enclosed **draft** documents outlining our initial thoughts in how to expand gaming opportunities in New Mexico for both the tribes and the tracks. We enter this conversation dedicated to a partnership with you, understanding that we must all work together to achieve our collective goals. Please consider this the first of several conversations we wish to have related to a proposal to expand gaming operations at both the tracks and on tribal land. Our hope is that tribes and tracks can agree to a bill that will expand gaming in New Mexico and promote tourism in our state.

This proposal would create the business situation where gaming tribes would operate your business as you see fit, generate additional revenue streams from new gaming operations, and maintain the entirety of the tribe's portion of revenue sharing obligations. Our goal is to reach an agreement that would end all tribal revenue sharing payments to the State of New Mexico at an agreed upon future date.

Enclosed please find four documents:

- 1. The .7 discussion **draft** of proposed changes to the gaming laws of the State of New Mexico. We are calling it the Gaming Industry Recovery Act (GIRA). This proposal is being offered by the racetracks in New Mexico that we hope will be considered during the 2021 legislative session.
- 2. A copy of the Union Gaming study from 2019 which examines the economic possibilities of racetracks to generate sufficient revenues and State gaming taxes to make up for the tribal revenue sharing payments when tribes are no longer required to pay them.
- 3. A summary of the proposal.
- 4. A summary of the Union Gaming study.

We want to stress that this proposal is exactly that —a *draft proposal*. Nothing is set in stone. Your input is valued and needed. We believe the only way to enhance gaming in New Mexico and give tourism a boost like it has never seen before is for the tribes and the tracks to work together. We sincerely hope that you will review the draft proposal, make comments about it, note your concerns, and offer solutions to those concerns.

As we enter this legislative process of communication and negotiation, we hope to achieve an outcome where the tribes, the tracks, and the State of New Mexico can all benefit. We hope that this proposal and the related loosening of the Compact provisions will create a win-win-win for the tribes, State and tracks.

We respectfully submit this proposal to you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bill Belcher

VP/General Manager

Zia Park

Jeff Mye

President/GM All/American Ruidoso Downs, LLC Rick Baugh

Riek Ra

General Manager

Sunland Park

cc: Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham

Speaker Brian Egolf

Leader Peter Wirth

Leader Jim Townsend

Leader Stuart Ingle

Secretary Lynn Trujillo

Rep. Georgene Louis, Chair of Interim Indian Affairs Committee.

Chair, House State Government, Elections & Indian Affairs Committee

Sen. Shannon Pinto, Vice Chair of Senate Indian and Cultural Affairs Committee